

Please note: Paragraphs five and seven are physically stricken per order of the Commission.

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South Carolina Public Service Commission

Docket 2017-292-WS

COMPLAINT IN INTERVENTION

Intervenor James Knowlton, on behalf of himself and fellow customers of Carolina Water Service and Utilities Inc states and alleges as follows:

1. That I am a lay person with no legal training or knowledge of Intervenor techniques and practice
2. That I and my fellow customers have endured and suffered well-documented poor and sometimes criminal water service for decades, with rate increases far beyond the scope of normal cost-of-living under the Utility – these factors being well-known to DHEC and ORS
3. That the customer base of the Utility is generally incensed yet frustrated to the point of hopelessness that the Public Service Commission is allowing the Utility to carry on year after year in this combination of poor service and profitability at the grievous expense of the customers, when it is the PSC's sworn duty to be fair to both
4. That the eleven million dollars claimed by the Utility as necessary reimbursement should be an amortized expense over many years of operation, and not a rapid return on investments by venture capitalists

5. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

6. That the Utility's actions represent prolonged and repetitive abuse to the Intervenor and to the Customers who for decades have registered a multitude of complaints to little avail
7. [REDACTED]

The Intervenor therefore submits these statements, and petitions the members of the Public Service Commission – begging them to courageously assume their God-given responsibility before the Customers of this State, and to not be present without vigilance as was Denhollander's mother.

James S Knowlton

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P R O C E E D I N G S

CHAIRMAN WHITFIELD: Please be seated. I'll call this hearing back to order, and I believe yesterday, Ms. Valtorta, we finished your presentation, your case.

So, Mr. Knowlton, I think you're up next.

MR. KNOWLTON: Thank you, members of the Commission and parties involved in this case.

[Witness affirmed]

THEREUPON came,

J A M E S K N O W L T O N ,

who, having been first duly affirmed, testified as follows:

COMMISSIONER BOCKMAN: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN WHITFIELD: Yeah, Commissioner Bockman.

COMMISSIONER BOCKMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is somewhat extraordinary, but I'd like to make an explanation. I'm going to ask that Mr. Knowlton's, at least paragraphs five and seven of his prefiled testimony – which is only in the Commission's file at this point – I'm going to move that his paragraphs five and seven of his prefiled testimony be physically stricken from the Commission's file and not be incorporated in the record in this proceeding. The text of his

Re Bockman's motion

1 prefiled testimony in paragraphs five and seven is
2 irrelevant to any issue in this proceeding and I
3 think it shows a lack of respect both for the
4 Commission and this proceeding, and I would, as an
5 extraordinary motion sua sponte, as they say, from
6 the Commission, I would ask the Commission
7 physically strike those portions, paragraphs five
8 and seven of Mr. Knowlton's prefiled testimony,
9 from the Commission's file in this case and would
10 ask that it not be incorporated in the record as if
11 read the stand.

12 CHAIRMAN WHITFIELD: Thank you, Commissioner
13 Bockman. Commissioners, you've heard Commissioner
14 Bockman's motion. It's not necessary that we vote
15 on this. I am going to order it, exactly what
16 Commissioner Bockman just said in his motion, that
17 paragraphs five and seven be physically stricken
18 from the record.

19 And with that, Mr. Knowlton, you may proceed

20 WITNESS: Thank you. And I was going to say
21 that I will be happy to go along with whatever that
22 was, so it was not necessary for you to do that,
23 but, thank you, very much.

24 It's been a long and difficult journey as a
25 customer of this utility. A little over 10 years